

DEDICATED TO ALL OUR BROTHERS WHO HAVE DEDICATED THEIR LIVES TO  
MARINE COMMUNICATIONS

\*\*\* U.S. LINES, A SUBSIDY OF MCLEAN INDUSTRIES HAS FILED FOR CHAPTER 11 BANKRUPTCY. IT IS NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME WHAT EFFECT IT WILL HAVE ON OUR INDUSTRY.

\*\*\* COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA (CWA) UNION REPS REPORT VERBAL RATIFICATION OF NEW THREE YEAR CONTRACT AT RCA GLOBCOM RADIO STATIONS CHATHAM/WCC, AND SAN FRANCISCO/KPH. SOURCES ALSO REPORT POSSIBILITY OF SALE OF RCA'S SATELLITE DIVISION RCA AMERICOM TO CTI THE FRENCH BASED COMMUNICATIONS GIANT WHICH IS ATTEMPTING TO BUY ITT TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

\*\*\* U.S. FLAG TANKER "OMI YUKON" WAS ABANDONED AFTER AN EXPLOSION IN THE ENGINE ROOM SET OFF AN INTENSE BLAZE TUESDAY NIGHT. THE VESSEL WAS ENROUTE TO DRY DOCK IN SOUTH KOREA AFTER DOCKING IN HAWAII TO UNLOAD ALASKAN OIL. A JAPANESE FISHING VESSEL "SHOSHI MARU" PICKED UP THE CREWMEN FROM THE LIFEBOATS AND LATER TRANSFERRED THEM TO THE 660 FOOT GERMAN FREIGHTER DRESDEN. THE CAPTAIN OF THE OMI YUKON REPORTED THAT FOUR CREWMEMBERS WHO WERE IN OR NEAR THE ENGINE ROOM WERE MISSING. ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO CONTACT A TUG NEAR THE ABANDONED SHIP TO ARRANGE A SALVAGE ATTEMPT...(TKX ARA PX!)

\*\*\* U.S. NAVY VERIFIES THAT THE SOVIET UNION CAN JAM COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES BY USING GROUND-TO-SPACE HIGH POWERED MICROWAVES WHICH WILL DISABLE A SATELLITE 23,000 MILES IN SPACE. THE HIGH POWERED MICROWAVES ARE TRANSMITTED FROM THE SOVIET UNION FROM A POINT NEAR THE AFGHAN BORDER. U.S. NAVY ALSO VERIFIES THAT SOVIETS HAVE HAD SOME LIMITED SUCCESS IN HIGH POWERED LASER GUN BOMBARDMENT FROM THEIR EXPERIMENTAL LASER BASE NEAR MOSCOW. THESE RECENT CONFIRMATIONS OF THE FRAGILITY OF SATELLITES AGAIN CALLS TO QUESTION THE WISDOM OF REPLACING CONVENTIONAL SHIP-TO-SHORE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS WITH THOSE DEPENDENT UPON SATELLITES.

\*\*\* RADIO OFFICER'S UNION (D-3 MEBA) HAS VOTED A NUMBER OF REFERENDA ALL OF WHICH PASSED. ONE OF THEM IS THE RELOCATION OF NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS TO WASHINGTON, D.C. SO THEY CAN BE CLOSE TO F.C.C., U.S.C.G. AND, OF COURSE, THE CONGRESS.

\*\*\* AMERICAN RADIO ASSOCIATION (ARA) AND RADIO OFFICER'S UNION (ROU) SIGN AGREEMENT TO COOPERATE WITH EACH OTHER AND SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE BEFORE THE F.C.C., THE COAST GUARD AND OTHERS. THEY ALSO HAVE AGREED TO SHARE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING INFORMATION, AND TO SUPPORT EACH OTHERS JOB ACTIONS. (IT'S ABOUT TIME WE STARTED WORKING TOGETHER - ED.)

\*\*\* 35TH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS (ITF) VOTE IN LUXEMBOURG APPROVE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ALL SHIPS OF 1600 GRT AND SAILING ON INTERNATIONAL VOYAGES TO CARRY 500 KHZ RADIOTELEGRAPH STATIONS AND RADIO OFFICERS. THE RESOLUTION WAS CARRIED 80-3 WITH MEBA DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT AND N-MEBA V.P. RAYMOND T. MCKAY, WHOSE MEBA-DISTRICT 2 UNION REPRESENTS RADIO OFFICERS, BEING ONE OF THE THREE VOTING AGAINST THE RESOLUTION. ITF SAYS THAT SUBSTITUTION OF "EQUIVALENTS" LIKE SATCOM IN PLACE OF 500 KHZ AND RADIO OFFICERS WILL NOT ENSURE THE SAFETY OF SEAFARERS. THE RESOLUTION ALSO NOTED THAT EVEN THOUGH ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION A420 (XI) OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO) CALLS FOR EXTENSIVE EVALUATION AND PRACTICAL TESTING TO PROVE THAT THE FGMDSS SYSTEM IS MORE RELIABLE THAN THE PRESENT SYSTEM, AND RETENTION OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT THE FGMDSS HAS BEEN PROVEN TO BE SUPERIOR TO THE PRESENT SYSTEM, VARIOUS COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN SUBSTITUTING "SATCOMM" FOR THE

MAIN 500 KHZ TRANSMITTER. THE RESOLUTION FURTHER NOTES THAT NO ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO PROVE THE FGDMS OR ITS SUBSYSTEMS. AS FOR SUBSTITUTIONS, THE RESOLUTION REMINDS US THAT WITHOUT A RADIO OFFICER ONBOARD, WE CANNOT COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH THAT SHIP, NOR CAN THAT SHIP COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH OTHER SHIPS USING LONG RANGE 500 KHZ TELEGRAPHY. THEY ALSO NOTE THAT INMARSAT SATCOMM IS FREQUENTLY PUT OUT OF SERVICE BY UNIDENTIFIED INTERFERENCE ON THE CALL REQUEST CHANNEL (WHICH WITHOUT ACQUIRING A SHIP IS UNABLE TO COMMUNICATE REGARDLESS OF THE POSITION OF THE PRIORITY INDICATOR (E.G. SOS, XXX, TTT) ON THE SATCOMM), SATELLITE OUTAGES, OR SIGNIFICANT DELAY IN CHANGING OVER TO RESERVE SATELLITES. WHEN INMARSAT'S SATELLITE WON'T RESPOND TO A CALL ON ITS REQUEST CHANNEL, OR THE SATELLITE IS OTHERWISE DOWN, THE ENTIRE OCEAN AREA IS LEFT WITHOUT COVERAGE.

\*\*\* U.S. MERCHANT FLEET AUTHORIZED TO USE U.S. AIR FORCE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AND U.S. NAVY HICOM VOICE CIRCUITS IN TIMES OF DISTRESS, THREAT OF PIRACY, HOSTILE ACTION BY A FOREIGN NATION, COLLISION, FIRE/EXPLOSION, NATURAL DISASTER, OR TERRORIST ATTACK. FACILITIES ARE LOCATED IN PANAMA, GUAM, JAPAN, HAWAII, ALASKA, CALIFORNIA, FLORIDA, GREENLAND, UNITED KINGDOM, AZORES, ASCENSION ISLAND, AND TURKEY AS WELL AS NAVAL VESSELS WORLDWIDE. RADIO OFFICERS ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT THEIR SHIPPING COMPANIES FOR THE LIST OF FREQUENCIES. THESE ARE NOT PUBLISHED HERE AS THIS NEWSLETTER IS SENT OVERSEAS TO NON-U.S.A. RADIO OFFICERS/COAST STATIONS.

\*\*\* U.S. MARITIME ADMINISTRATION (MARAD) AND THE U.S. NAVY ANNOUNCE RADIO OFFICERS READINESS TRAINING COURSE (NAVY COMMUNICATIONS/CRYPTO) AVAILABLE IN 1987 TO U.S. RADIO OFFICERS ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS. R/O'S NEED THE FOLLOWING: FCC 1ST OR 2ND TELEGRAPH LICENSE, 6 MOS., 2 CARD, VALID COAST GUARD LICENSE, AND DOCUMENTATION OF 30 DAYS EMPLOYMENT AS A RO WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS. UNCLE SAM PAYS FOR ROUND TRIP TRANSPORTATION, TUITION, ROOM AND BOARD. INQUIRIES TO UNIONS OR COMPANY.

\*\*\* ROGERS CITY RADIO/WLC ADDS SITOR TO THEIR OTHER SERVICES. WLC ADDS THE FOLLOWING FREQS: 2070.5 SHIP, 2137.5 WLC. 4172.0 SHIP, 4351.5 WLC. THEIR SELCALL IS '1106'. FURTHER INFO WILL FOLLOW.

\*\*\* SOLAR CYCLE NUMBER 22 STARTS WITH A BANG! --- SOLAR CYCLE #22 STARTED CLIMBING WITH AMERICAN SUNSPOT NUMBERS GOING TO 60! OLD SOL WAS FULL OF SUNSPOTS AS THE 22 MHZ MARINE BANDS WERE OPEN ALL DAY. GOOD OPENINGS WERE OBSERVED TO JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA FROM NORTHEASTERN U.S.A. AND SIGNALS FROM EUROPE GKA, DAN, SVA, ASM AND OTHERS WERE STRONG AND STEADY. THE 25 MHZ HOLD-OUTS WHO STILL TRANSMIT ON THAT BAND DURING THE SUNSPOT MINIMUM WERE COMING THROUGH QSA5 DURING LATE MORNING AND EARLY AFTERNOON WITH VERY STRONG SIGNALS. THERE WAS A GEOMAGNETIC DISTURBANCE DURING EARLY NOVEMBER WHICH QUITTED THINGS DOWN A BIT, BUT DID NOT STOP THE GREAT CONDITIONS. IT SURELY WILL HELP WHEN WE CAN USE 6 AND 8 MHZ AGAIN DURING THE EVENING HOURS FOR 500 TO 1000 MILE CONTACTS INSTEAD OF HAVING TO USE 4 MHZ WHICH IS OPEN 3000 MILES PLUS AT NIGHT.

\*\*\* PERTHRADIO/VIP HAS INSTITUTED SEMI-AUTO SITOR WITH A THRANE AND THRANE SYSTEM. CORRESPONDANT MURRAY HACKNEY OF PERTHRADIO/VIP GIVES US THE RUN DOWN ON THINGS "DOWN UNDER"... (THE PERMANENT HOME OF AMERICA'S CUP, HE ADDS!). ONE OF THE MAJOR OF 12 COASTAL RADIO STATIONS IN AUSTRALIA, VIP PERTHRADIO RUNS MARCONI 10KW TX'S ON SITOR AND CW HF BANDS. FOR RECEIVE ON SITOR THEY RUN AN ITT MACKAY (REMOTED). THEY OPERATE ON 2182, 4125, 6215.5 SSB WITH 1KW AND USE RACALS ON RECEIVE. 500 KHZ USES A 2KW MAIN TX WITH A 500W STBY TX. LOCAL AND REMOTED RCYRS ON 500 ARE RACALS WITH COLLINS AS STBY UNITS. THEY HAVE A GOOD GARDEN OF ANTENNAS FOR USE INCLUDING: BI-CONICAL MONOPOLE, DIPOLES, AND SEVERAL HUGE LOG PERIODICS. THEY ARE ABLE TO USE DIRECTIONAL ANTENNAS FOR TRANSMIT ON SITOR IN CASE OF A POOR LINK. RADIOTELEPHONE TRANSMITTERS ARE MICROPROCESSOR CONTROLLED WITH 400 PRESET CHANNELS WHICH COVER 1.9 MHZ THROUGH 29.9 MHZ. THEY ALSO OFFER VHF-FM SERVICE ON CH 16, 67, 23 TO 27 FOR PHONE CALLS. THEY CAN CHOOSE FROM THE



LOCAL OR REMOTE RECEIVE ANTENNAS ON 500, HF PHONE, HF CW, AND SITOR. REMOTE RECEIVE SIGHT IS LOCATED ON ROTTNEST ISLAND 25 KM AWAY FROM PERTH. ALSO A REMOTED 2182 SITE IS AVAILABLE AT GERALDTON 300 KM NORTH OF PERTH. TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF THE LOG PERIODIC'S GAIN (AND SIZE), ON 8 MHZ IT HAS A GAIN OF 18 DB!... FURTHER INFO WRITE TO: OTC PERTHRADIO/VIP, 620 GNANGARA ROAD, LANSDALE 6065 W.A., AUSTRALIA.

\*\*\* IT'S A STRANGE WORLD... REMEMBER WHEN THE LAND MOBILE FOLKS WANTED TO INTRODUCE CELLULAR PHONE? IT WAS GOING TO BE THE CURE ALL FOR SPECTRUM USE. SMALL CELLS WITH LIMITED RANGE, AND THEN COMPUTER LINKS WHICH WOULD KEEP TABS ON WHERE THE MOBILE WAS AND SHIFT FREQUENCIES TO AN ADJOINING CELL WITHOUT DROPPING OUT? IT SOUNDED TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE. WELL NOW IT SEEMS THAT THE LAND MOBILE SERVICE HAS FOUND THAT IT IS TOO DIFFICULT TO STICK TO THE ORIGINAL GAME PLAN (EVEN WITH THE EVER RISING POPULARITY OF THESE UNITS). THEY WANT BIGGER CELLS BECAUSE IT WOULD COST TOO MUCH TO DO THE ORIGINAL SMALL CELL PLAN. THERE ARE SOME REAL PHONEY BALONEYS OUT THERE. ALREADY COMSAT HAS LET IT BE KNOWN THAT IT IS ECONOMICALLY UNFEASIBLE TO COVER THE ENTIRE WORLD WITH SATELITE COVERAGE (JUST COVER THE DENSE HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS). WE, IT SEEMS, ARE LIVING IN A WORLD IN WHICH THE TRUTH SEEMS TO LACK MERIT, AND A WELL POLISHED LIE WITH THE HOPE OF MAKING MONEY AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHERS IS PREFERRED. REMEMBER "HIGH TECH" IS NOTHING MORE THAN NEW "LOW TECH", HOWEVER THERE ARE TIMES THAT SENSIBLE TECH IS TO BE PREFERRED. CELLULAR SYSTEMS ARE BEING ADVERTISED FOR USE BY THE BOATER, HOWEVER ONE DREADS THE THOUGHT THAT CELLULAR PHONES WILL REPLACE THE VHF-16 SYSTEM AS THE COMPUTERS THAT GOVERN THE ASSIGNMENT OF CHANNELS IN THE CELL BLOCKS ALSO INTERROGATES THE CELL-PHONE ITSELF. IF THE PAYMENT IS LATE IN THE MAIL, THE PHONE WONT DIAL (SOME WON'T EVEN DIAL "EMERGENCY 911"), AND WHEN TRANSITING NEW AREAS IN WHICH YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED THE PHONE WILL ONLY GIVE YOU "YOU MUST CALL AN 800 NUMBER (WHICH ALSO WON'T DIAL FROM THE CELL-PHONE) TO REGISTER FOR SERVICE - UNFORTUNATELY IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO DO WHEN GOING DOWN THE INTERCOASTAL WATERWAY.

\*\*\* BETTER OPERATING --- DURING DARKNESS HOURS ON 500 KHZ, THE BAND IS OFTEN OPEN FOR DISTANCES IN EXCESS OF 2500 MILES. WITH THE UNFORTUNATE TIGHT TOLERANCES ON 500 KHZ TRANSMITTERS THESE DAYS, EVEN THE BEST OPERATORS CANNOT SEPARATE SIGNALS TO GET THE CALL SIGNS. NEEDLESS CALLING HINDERS RATHER THAN HELPS STATIONS FROM MAKING CONTACT. LET'S ASSUME THAT IF YOU CAN HEAR A STATION THAT YOU CAN BE HEARD BY HIM. LET'S TRY TO MAKE ONE BY ONE CALLS AT MODERATE SPEEDS (22 WPM OR SO) AND KEEP OFF UNTIL WE HEAR A QUIET SPOT. AT MANY U.S.A STATIONS, DURING EVENING, AND ESPECIALLY LATE EVENING, THE WATCH CONSISTS OF ONE OPERATOR. LISTEN TO HIS HF SIGNAL MARKER, AND IF THAT IS GOING, THEN MOST LIKELY SOMEONE IS LISTENING TO 500 KHZ ALSO. MANY OPERATORS, WHEN THE 500 KHZ BAND IS FULL OF STATIC AND CO-CHANNEL INTERFERENCE SIMPLY LEAVE IT ON A SPEAKER WITH THE VOLUME TURNED DOWN TO ALLOW THEM TO COPY TRAFFIC. WHEN THEY ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING TO CONTACT SHIPS THEY, OF COURSE, LISTEN TO 500 KHZ, BUT THE QRM FROM STATIONS EXACTLY OF THE SAME PITCH MAKES THINGS DIFFICULT TO PICK UP. PLEASE IF YOU MUST CALL, WAIT UNTIL NO ONE IS ON THE FREQUENCY, SEND " IE " WHICH IS THE OLD AMERICAN MORSE LAND TELEGRAPH LETTER "C" WHICH MEANS "ARE YOU CLEAR?" IF YOU HEAR "AS" (WAIT) THEN JUST WAIT UNTIL THE STATION CAN GET THE WORKING FREQUENCY OR WHATEVER. IF YOU HEAR SOMEONE TRYING TO GET THE FREQUENCY, THEN WAIT UNTIL THEY MAKE THEIR CALL. I AM SURE THAT QRM COULD BE REDUCED 90% IF WE DID THIS. I HAVE OFTEN TAKEN 10 MINUTES TO GET THE CALLSIGN OF A WEAK STATION WHEN OTHERS WOULD CALL OVER ME. ALSO SOME COAST STATION OPERATORS JUST GET SICK AND TIRED OF HEARING THEIR CALL SIGN REPEATED OVER AND OVER AGAIN WITH NO CALLING STATION CALLSIGN GIVEN. LISTEN UP SHIP OPS, THE ALTERNATIVE FOR COAST STATIONS IS TO USE THE AUTOMATIC GAIN CONTROL, AND JUST ANSWER THE STRONG SIGNALS.

\*\*\* WLO AUTO TLX... PLEASE ADD NEW FREQUENCY OF ITU CHANNEL 410 (SHIP: 4175.0, WLO: 4354.5) HOURS ARE NOW ALL H24).

\*\*\* NOTES FROM THE OZONE LAYER \*\*\*

THE FOLLOWING INFO IS SENT IN BY VARIOUS CORRESPONDANTS AND WE ARE NOT RESPONSABLE FOR ITS ACCURACY OR CONTENT. IF YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE PLEASE SEND INFO TO US AND IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO HAVE YOUR NAME MENTIONED, PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER... TKS...

\*\*\* BILL EDWARDS, R/O - REO OF THE COASTAL MANATEE, SENDS IN SOME PROOF CORRECTIONS TO PREVIOUS COPIES OF PROCOMM. WELL, BILL IT'S HARD TO SEE THE ERRORS SOMETIMES. THE "NOTES FROM THE OZONE LAYER" SECTION, ARE FROM CORRESPONDENTS AND WHEN THEY SAY SOMETHING, I TRY TO REPEAT IT. THE OTHER SECTION IS NEWS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT. BILL SAYS THE NEW MANUAL FOR GKA IS REALLY SLICK.

\*\*\* LATE WORD HAS IT THAT BILL EDWARD'S SON PASSED AWAY RECENTLY IN HOUSTON. WORDS CANNOT SPEAK THE GRIEF ONE FEELS WHEN LOSING A SON. OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU OM.

\*\*\* RETIRED RADIO OFFICER, BILL LOVELL NOTES THAT MORSE CODE TELEGRAPHY WAS THE FIRST TYPE OF DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS. ITS BENEFIT IS THAT THE OPERATOR MUST MAKE ONLY A FEW TRUE/FALSE DECISIONS: IS THERE A SIGNAL? IS THE SIGNAL "LONG" OR SHORT? IS THE SPACE BETWEEN SIGNALS LONG OR SHORT? THESE DECISIONS BUILD ONE TO ANOTHER AND PRODUCE A DECIPHERABLE STREAM OF LETTERS. THE AMAZING ABILITY OF THE EAR TO BRAIN RELATIONSHIP CAN DISCRIMINATE BETWEEN FREQUENCIES OF LESS THAN 10 HZ (OR AS BILL SAYS: TEN CYCLES PER SECOND). THE HUMAN MIND IS ABLE TO COPY SIGNALS WELL INTO THE NOISE AND FROM BENEATH SEVERE INTERFERENCE. THE REAL ADVANTAGE IN MORSE IS NOT WHEN SIGNALS ARE STRONG, BUT WHEN SIGNALS ARE ALL BUT GONE.

\*\*\* A GULF COAST R/O WRITES THAT AN ITEM IS APPEARING IN THE MIAMI, FT. LAUDERDALE, HOUSTON, TAMPA, AND NEW ORLEANS PAPERS ASKING FOR RADIO OFFICERS TO SEND RESUME TO A SOUTHSIDE STATION P.O. BOX IN FT. LAUDERDALE. THIS SEEMS TO BE A CHUCK MALLOY ORGANIZING EFFORT. REMEMBER IF YOU DON'T HELP THEM GET 6 MONTHS ON THEIR TICKET, THEN THEY CAN'T GET TAKE OUR JOBS AWAY. ALSO MOC AND KEYSTONE ARE TRAINING 3RD MATES AND 3RD ASST. ENGRS TO BECOME COMBINATION R/O AND 3RD MATE (OR 3RD ASST ENGR.)

\*\*\* ONE ASIAN R/O TELLS US THAT HE SAW AN ITEM IN "SEA NEWS" FROM THE MISSIONS TO SEAMEN LONDON AND SEAMENS CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NYK THAT SAYS IN A RECENT SURVEY IN SWEEDEN, R/O'S SHOWED THAT ABOUT HALF OF THEM EXPECTED TO LEAVE BY THE YEAR FGDSS STARTS, AND THE OTHERS THEY WOULD SEEK RETRAINING. IN THE U.K. A YEAR'S TRIAL SCHEME UNDER WHICH R/O'S HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKING "PRODUCTIVE" WORK HAS BEEN SAID TO BE SUCCESSFUL BY THE UNION "NUMAST", WHICH WANTS THE MAINTENANCE CONTINUED/EXTENDED. SO INSTEAD OF 8 HOURS R/O WATCH, ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE WAS CARRIED OUT AND THE TRIAL PROVED BEYOND DOUBT THAT THERE WAS A PLACE FOR A HIGHLY QUALIFIED ELECTRONIC MAINTENANCE PERSON ONBOARD EVEN AFTER FGDSS. CERTAIN MASTERS HAVE BACKED THIS VIEW INDICATING THAT THEY DID NOT FORSEE A TIME WHEN THEY WOULD BE HAPPY TO SAIL WITHOUT SUCH A MAINTANENCE CAPABILITY ONBOARD.

JACK WHIPKEY, REO ON THE USNS SEALIFT ARTIC (T-AOT 175)/NQST SENDS TH FLG INFO: "THE RADIO COMM EQUIPMENT ONBOARD CONSISTS OF THE FAMILIAR ITT CONSOLE WITH HF & MF TRANSMITTERS. THESE CW TRANSMITTERS WERE DESIGNED WITH NO CW SIDE TONE (A RIDICULOUS DESIGN). RECEIVERS ARE THE ITT 3020A. THESE OVERPRICED, OVERDESIGNED RECEIVERS ARE ACTUALLY INFERIOR IN PERFORMANCE TO MANY OTHER POPULAR RECEIVERS (SUCH AS ICOM OR KENWOOD)...SITOR/ARQ IS HARRIS 193-M, WHICH I DONT EVEN USE FOR WX BCSTS AS BLOWER SYSTEM HAS A SOUND LIKE A B-747 ON A TAKE OFF ROLL. AND SPEAKING OF WEATHER, THE NAVY "WEAX" WEATHER FORECASTING SYSTEM WHICH IS RIDICULOUSLY INEFFICIENT AND OF LITTLE PRACTICAL USE. WX RECEIVED VIA CW AND